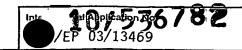
26 MAY 2005



Relevant to claim No.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT IPC 7 A61K31/185

A61P13/12

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

A61K9/28 A61P15/10 A61P3/10 A61P27/02 A61P7/00

A61P9/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

#### **B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

A61K

Category '

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages

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° Special ca  "A" docume conside earlier of filing of the citation other of the country docume after the country docume later the country document later the country documen	ent which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another n or other special reason (as specified) ent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or	*T* later document published after the interpretation or priority date and not in conflict with cited to understand the principle or the invention  *X* document of particular relevance; the cannot be considered novel or cannot involve an inventive step when the dot of particular relevance; the cannot be considered to involve an indocument is combined with one or more ments, such combination being obvious in the art.  *&* document member of the same patent  Date of mailing of the international seasons.	ernational filing date the application but eory underlying the claimed invention the considered to current is taken alone claimed invention ventive step when the ore other such docu- us to a person skilled
Name and r	mailing address of the ISA  European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Cielen, E	

Inte al Application No

	1/EP 03/13469 ,
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	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	I Date and the Na
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#### FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Present claims 1-7 and 14-25 relate to the treatment of diseases which actually are not well defined. The use of the definitions "for the regulation of nitric oxide (NO) synthesis and/or the regulation of EDHF (Endothelium-Derived-Hyperpolarizing-Factor) in the endothelium of diabetic patients" and "for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of disorders based on an impairment of nitric oxide production and/or impairment of regulation of EDHF function" in the present context is considered to lead to a lack of clarity within the meaning of Article 6 PCT. It is not fully possible to determine the diseases for which protection might legitimately be sought. The lack of clarity is such as to render a meaningful complete search impossible. Consequently, the search has been restricted to the real and defined diseases mentioned in claims 8-13.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.



Box I	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This Inte	ernational Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. 🗓	Claims Nos.:  because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:  see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3.	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Int	ernational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
!	
1.	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2.	As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.	As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4.	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the Invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remai	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
	No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Patent document cited in search report

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Information on patent family members

Publication date

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